

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~Disclosed is~~ A corrective device for compensating disturbances of polarization distribution across the ~~cross-section~~ cross section of a light beam (10). ~~Said~~ The corrective device ~~comprises~~ includes a corrective member (18; 118) encompassing two ~~double-refractive~~ double refractive corrective elements (20, 22; 120a, 120b, 122; 220; 222; 320, 322) with two substantially parallel surfaces (24, 26; 126, 127). The thickness (d) of the corrective element (22; 122, 222) is essentially constant between the surfaces (26; 126, 127). At least one of the surfaces (24, 26; 126, 127) of at least one of the corrective elements (20, 22; 120a, 120b, 122; 220; 222; 320, 322) is refinished in such a way that local irregularities in thickness Δd are created, by means of ~~by means of~~ which the disturbances of polarization distribution are at least nearly compensated. The arrangement, thickness (d), and ~~double-refractory~~ double-refractive properties of the corrective elements (20, 22; 120a, 120b, 122; 220; 222; 320, 322) are selected such that the double-refractive effects thereof mutually cancel each other out if the local irregularities in thickness Δd are not taken into consideration. The ~~inventive~~ corrective device influences polarization only at points where disturbances are to be compensated.